

## Message Text

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15

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01

SCSE-00 SCA-01 DHA-02 SAM-01 SAB-01 ACDA-10 /118 R

DRAFTED BYHNEA/P:MHVANORDER:RGH

APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN

S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)

H - MR. FLATEN (INFO)

EUR/P - MR. JERABEK

IO/P - MR. BLACHLY

NEA/ARN - MR. BULLEN

AF/P - MRS. RUSSELL

----- 105517

R 022235Z OCT 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

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USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY SANA

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY DOHA  
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT  
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO  
USMISSION GENEVA  
CINCEUR

UNCLAS STATE 235427

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL  
CINCEUR FOR POLAD

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS  
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING FOR  
OCTOBER 2, 1975:

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING THAT YOU WANT TO SAY ABOUT LEYLIE  
GELB'S STORY THIS MORNING IN THE NEW YORK TIMES?

A. THERE IS ONLY ONE THING I WANT TO COMMENT ON IN THAT  
STORY, WHICH, AS I THINK MOST OF YOU WHO HAVE READ IT  
KNOW, TALKS ABOUT LEAKS. WE REGARD THE ALLEGATION THAT THE  
STATE DEPARTMENT WOULD SOMEHOW PREPARE DOCUMENTS TO THE  
CONGRESS SO THAT IF THEY WERE LEAKED, THAT THEY COULD BE  
TRACED--THAT THAT ALLEGATION IS AN ABSOLUTE OUTRAGE. WE  
CATEGORICALLY DENY IT.

Q. WELL, APART FROM THAT, WERE THERE VARIATIONS OF THE  
DOCUMENTS THAT DID MAKE THEM TRACEABLE?

A. HE DESCRIBED IN HIS ARTICLE AN EXPLANATION THAT  
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THERE MAY HAVE BEEN TYPOGRAPHICAL ERRORS, OR SOMETHING.  
FRANKLY, I HAVE NOT BEEN BRIEFED ON THAT. I DO NOT KNOW  
ANYTHING MORE ABOUT THE ACCURACY OF THE VARIOUS THINGS  
HE DESCRIBED THAN WHAT WAS IN THE ARTICLE.

THE ONLY THING I DO WANT TO SAY ON IT IS THAT TO ACCUSE  
US OF DOING THIS DELIBERATELY IS OUTRAGEOUS.

Q. AND SO YOU ARE DENYING THAT IT WAS DELIBERATE, BUT  
YOU ARE NOT DENYING THE FACT THAT THERE MIGHT HAVE BEEN  
INNATE DIFFERENCES IN THE DOCUMENTS THAT ENABLED THEM  
TO BE TRACED FOR SPONTANEOUS ORIGIN.

A. I AM NOT DENYING IT, BUT I DO NOT KNOW THAT FOR A FACT.

Q. DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAVE A VERSION AS TO WHERE IT CONCLUDES THE DOCUMENTS LEAKED FROM?

A. NO, I AM NOT IN A POSITION TO SAY THAT. OBVIOUSLY THE DOCUMENTS HAD ONLY VERY LIMITED DISTRIBUTION.

Q. IS THE STATE DEPARTMENT EXAMINING OR INVESTIGATING JACK ANDERSON AND HOW HE OBTAINED THE DOCUMENTS?

A. NOT THAT I AM AWARE OF.

Q. ON ANOTHER SUBJECT, THE OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM COMPANY TODAY ACCUSED LIBYA OF PREVENTING 230 AMERICAN CITIZENS FROM LEAVING THE COUNTRY IN SOME SORT OF CONTRACTUAL DISPUTE BETWEEN OCCIDENTAL AND THE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT. DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THAT?

A. I AM FAMILIAR WITH THE STORY, AND I ASKED ABOUT IT. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF LIBYA AND THE OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM COMPANY HAVE REACHED AN IMPASSE ON A LONG-STANDING DISPUTE REGARDING OCCIDENTAL'S OIL CONCESSION IN LIBYA. I DO NOT HAVE THE DETAILS ON IT. YOU WOULD HAVE TO GET THEM FROM OCCIDENTAL OR THE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT.

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OCCIDENTAL INFORMED US THAT IT HAS INSTRUCTED ITS LIBYAN SUBSIDIARY TO PROCEED TO AFFECT THE DEPARTURE OF ALL FOREIGN NATIONALS EMPLOYED IN LIBYA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. HOWEVER, OCCIDENTAL INFORMED US, I BELIEVE, THIS MORNING, THAT THE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT IS PROHIBITING THE DEPARTURE OF THESE FOREIGN NATIONALS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS.

OCCIDENTAL INFORMED US THAT THESE FOREIGN NATIONALS INCLUDE 230 U.S. CITIZENS. WE WERE ONLY ADVISED OF THIS THIS MORNING, THIS DEVELOPMENT. WE ARE SEEKING CLARIFICATION FROM BOTH OCCIDENTAL AND THE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT ON A VERY URGENT BASIS.

Q. DO YOU KNOW WHY THEY ARE PLANNING TO EVACUATE THESE PEOPLE, FOR WHAT REASON?

A. NO, I DO NOT.

Q. WHAT IS YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE REASONS FOR PROHIBITING THEIR DEPARTURE?

A. CHECK WITH OCCIDENTAL. THEY PUT OUT A LONG PRESS

RELEASE, THE TEXT OF WHICH I JUST GOT BEFORE I CAME IN.  
I HAVE NOT HAD TIME TO READ ALL OF IT, BUT YOU ARE ALL  
WELCOME TO READ IT IN MY OFFICE.

Q. YOU SAID YOU ARE SEEKING CLARIFICATION FROM THE  
LIBYAN GOVERNMENT ON AN URGENT BASIS?

A. YES.

Q. IS THAT BEING DONE HERE OR IN TRIPOLI?

A. BOTH PLACES.

Q.# ARE YOU DEALING WITH OCCIDENTAL'S REPRESENTATIVES  
IN WASHINGTON?

A. I DO NOT KNOW WHERE THE REPRESENTATIVES ARE. I KNOW  
THAT A SENIOR OFFICIAL OF OCCIDENTAL PHONED A SENIOR  
STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL THIS MORNING.  
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Q. COULD YOU TELL THE NAME OF THESE OFFICIALS?

A. IT WAS MR. ATHERTON. I DO NOT KNOW THE NAME OF  
THE OCCIDENTAL OFFICIAL.

Q. YOU SAY "INCLUDING 230 U.S. CITIZENS." IS THAT THE  
NUMBER OF FOREIGN NATIONALS?

A. FOREIGN NATIONALS? NO. IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THERE  
ARE OTHER NATIONALS, BUT I DO NOT HAVE THE FIGURE ON THAT  
AT THIS POINT.

Q. HAS THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT EITHER NOTIFIED

THE ISRAELIS OR THE EGYPTIANS THAT THE UNITED STATES  
CONGRESS HAS NOT YET APPROVED THE TECHNICIANS, AND HAS  
ASKED FOR AN ADJUSTMENT IN THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE ISRAELI  
FORCES? OR HAVE THE EGYPTIANS AND THE ISRAELIS BEEN IN  
CONTACT WITH THE AMERICANS ABOUT THIS?

A. I DO NOT KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION. OBVIOUSLY,  
WHAT IS HAPPENING ON THE HILL HAS BEEN VERY WELL PUBLI-  
CIZED, SO OBVIOUSLY BOTH GOVERNMENTS KNOW WHAT IS  
HAPPENING.

AS YOU KNOW, THE SECRETARY MET WITH THE SENATE FOREIGN  
RELATIONS COMMITTEE THIS MORNING. THEY HAD TO ADJOURN  
THE MEETING BECAUSE THE SECRETARY HAD TO RETURN TO THE  
WHITE HOUSE FOR WELCOMING CEREMONIES FOR THE EMPEROR OF  
JAPAN. HE IS RETURNING THIS AFTERNOON TO CONTINUE THE  
DISCUSSION SHOWN ON THE HILL.

Q. DO YOU KNOW HOW LONG HE EXPECTS TO BE UP ON THE HILL THIS AFTERNOON?

A. I DO NOT KNOW.

Q.# HE IS GOING BACK TOMORROW, TOO?

A. HE IS SCHEDULED TO HAVE AN OPEN SESSION TOMORROW  
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MORNING.

Q. IN OTHER WORDS, YOU ARE SAYING YOU DON'T KNOW IF THERE HAS BEEN ANY ACTION TAKEN THAT WOULD DELAY THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FIRST STEP OF THE PLAN WHICH WAS TO TAKE PLACE IN THE ABU RUDEIS OIL FIELDS REGION?

A. I DO NOT.

Q. COULD WE HAVE THAT QUESTION PUT AS TO WHETHER THE UNITED STATES HAS ANY KNOWLEDGE OF THAT?

A. I WILL. I BELIEVE THE SECRETARY TOLD SOME OF YOU WHO WERE ON THE HILL THIS MORNING THAT IT WAS VERY IMPORTANT THAT THE CONGRESS APPROVE THE STATIONING OF THE U.S. TECHNICIANS IN ORDER TO HAVE THE AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTED.

Q. THE IMPLEMENTATION WAS SUPPOSED TO START ON MONDAY?

A. IT WAS SCHEDULED TO START ON SUNDAY, I BELIEVE.

Q. BY "IMPLEMENTATION", WHAT DO YOU MEAN EXACTLY--THE STATIONING OF THE TWO HUNDRED?

A. THE BEGINNING OF THE STEPS OF THE AGREEMENT AS PROVIDED IN THE VARIOUS PROTOCOLS.

Q. IS THE SECRETARY CONSIDERING NEW APPROACHES REGARDING ISRAELI-SYRIAN NEGOTIATIONS ON THE GOLAN?

A. THE SECRETARY SAID IN NEW YORK THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO DO ANYTHING THAT THE PARTIES WANT US TO DO TO HELP MOVE TOWARDS PEACE. AND WE ARE OPEN-MINDED ON IT. WE DO NOT HAVE ANY PREFERRED ROUTE. I DO NOT KNOW OF ANY DEVELOPMENTS SINCE HIS STATEMENT WAS MADE A FEW DAYS AGO IN NEW YORK.

Q. HE HAS MADE THAT OFFER SEVERAL TIMES OF BEING WILLING TO HELP NEGOTIATIONS, IF THE TWO PARTIES ARE INTERESTED. HAS EITHER PARTY GIVEN ANY SIGN OF BEING INTERESTED?

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A. BOTH PARTIES HAVE INDICATED THAT THEY ARE INTERESTED IN HAVING PEACE IN THE AREA--THE OVER-ALL GOAL. THEY HAVE DONE THAT PUBLICLY.

Q. HE HAS NOT BEEN TAKEN UP ON A SPECIFIC OFFER?

A. NOT THAT I AM AWARE.

Q. WHAT ABOUT THE IDEA FOR AN INFORMAL MIDDLE EAST PEACE CONFERENCE? HAS THAT GOTTEN OFF THE GROUND?

A. P DO NOT KNOW THAT ANYTHING HAS DEVELOPED SINCE HE MADE THE PROPOSAL. WE HAVE BEEN HAVING TALKS, SO OBVIOUSLY THAT HAS BEEN A SUBJECT UNDER CONSIDERATION. BUT I AM NOT AWARE THAT IT HAS GONE BEYOND CONSIDERATION AT THIS POINT.

Q. SECRETARY OF DEFENSE SCHLESINGER HAS BEEN QUOTED AS SAYING THAT HE ENCOUNTERED VERY STRONG OPPOSITION IN EUROPE FROM ALLIES, AND ALSO FROM NATO OFFICIALS TO ANY PROVISION OF PERSHING MISSILES TO ISRAEL. DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT KNOW WHAT THE EXTENT OF THAT OPPOSITION IS, AND WHAT EFFECT IT MAY HAVE ON U.S. CONSIDERATION?

A. I HAVE SEEN THE ACCOUNTS OF SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S REMARKS TO THE PRESS. THE POSITION OF THE UNITED STATES

GOVERNMENT ON THAT QUESTION REMAINS AS THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY AND, AS I THINK THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, HAVE DESCRIBED IT, THAT WE AGREED TO STUDY THE ISRAELI REQUEST.

Q. WITH A VIEW TO GIVING A POSITIVE RESPONSE?

A. THAT IS WHAT THE LANGUAGE SAID, BUT IT IS A COMMITMENT TO STUDY, AND NO DECISION HAS BEEN MADE.

Q. WILL THE OBJECTIONS OR PROTESTS OF THE WEST EUROPEAN ALLIES BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION, OR IS THIS REGARDED AS PURELY A BILATERAL MATTER BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL?

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STATES AND ISRAEL?

A. I CANNOT EXCLUDE THAT THEY WILL NOT BE TAKEN UNDER CONSIDERATION.

THERE WAS ONE OTHER QUESTION THAT SOME OF YOU HAD ASKED

ABOUT, AND THAT WAS ABOUT A STORY QUOTING STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS AS DESCRIBING A RECENT TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST MADE BY SENATOR SCOTT. I HAVE CHECKED THAT STORY

AND I WANT TO SAY THAT NO AUTHORIZED STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL MADE SUCH REMARKS. WE REGRET THAT A STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL WAS CITED IN THIS MANNER. I JUST WISH TO REPEAT, NO AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE MADE SUCH REMARKS.

Q. WELL, FOR THE RECORD, YOU WILL HAVE TO EXPLAIN WHAT REMARKS IT IS YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT, BECAUSE I CERTAINLY HAVE NOT SEEN THEM.

A. I WILL GET A COPY OF THE STORY FOR YOU.

Q. WHAT IS AN AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL?# YOU MEAN, NO OFFICIAL IS AUTHORIZED TO MAKE THESE REMARKS?

A. PF, IN FACT, IT WAS A STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL, HE WAS DOING IT ON HIS OWN. AND IN A PERSONAL CAPACITY, AND NOT AS AN OFFICIAL.

Q. I HAV E ONE MORE QUESTION. THERE WAS A REPORT YESTERDAY THAT STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS AND PENTAGON OFFICIALS ARE CONSIDERING A DOLS 250 AND 300 MILLION ARMS DEAL FOR EGYPT THIS YEAR. IS THAT ACCURATE?

A. THERE IS NO CHANGE ON THAT QUESTION FROM THE WAY THE PRESIDENT DESCRIBED IT SEVERAL DAYS AGO. KISSINGER

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

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USUN N Y  
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